

Church. She has served for more than 8 years as the Recording Secretary and the Treasurer of the Matilda Monroe Area. She was also the Editor of the "Bridge," the Second Episcopal District WMS Newsletter, and was elected a Delegate to the 15th and 16th Quadrennial Conventions.

Married for 35 years, Pastor Sembly and First Lady Mrs. Pamela J. Sembly have three loving children and six grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Reverend Charles T. Sembly and First Lady Pamela J. Sembly for their outstanding service to the Union Bethel A.M.E. Church and their continued commitment to enhancing lives in their community.

HONORING DEBORAH PEEPLES

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Deborah Peeples of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. Through Mrs. Peeples' public service and dedication to the community she inspires us all. In acknowledgement of her service and commitment to the advancement of the Democratic Party, Deborah has been selected to receive the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award from the Shrewsbury Democratic Town Committee.

Deborah has done a tremendous amount of work for the Town of Shrewsbury. She has served as an elected Town Meeting Member and member of the Shrewsbury School Committee. During this time she played an active role in four school building projects. Currently, Mrs. Peeples serves as the Treasurer for the Board of Friends of the Shrewsbury Public Library. She founded and ran the Summer R.E.C.E.S.S. reading program which continues to this day. Deborah Peeples is dedicated to improving the community of Shrewsbury.

Deborah Peeples has been an active member and is the current Co-Vice Chair of the Town Democratic Committee. She has been involved in Democratic campaigns for a very long time, from leafleting for George McGovern in 1972 and more recently, campaigning for Hillary Clinton, Shannon O'Brien, Bill Clinton and Deval Patrick. I will be forever grateful to her for her friendship and hard work helping in my Congressional campaigns. Deborah is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis. Currently she serves as Executive Director of ELNA (Education and Leadership for a Non-violent Age) Collaborative, working with middle and high school students promoting leadership, civic participation and social activism.

Deborah's devotion to the betterment of our community and her commitment to public service enrich us all. In tribute to her outstanding service to the Town of Shrewsbury, I congratulate my friend, Deborah Peeples on receiving this award. I know all my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to her.

HONORING MRS. DEBRA JOHNSON

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to recognize Mrs. Debra Johnson, Principal of Chamberlain Middle School and High School in Chamberlain, South Dakota. Mrs. Johnson was named South Dakota Middle School Principal of the Year by the MetLife/National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) National Principal of the Year Program. This award recognizes the achievements of secondary school principals like Mrs. Johnson who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession.

Mrs. Johnson has devoted 29 years to education, including more than 17 years as an administrator. One of her proudest achievements was combining separate buildings for grades 5-8 and grades 9-12 into a joint middle school and high school in Chamberlain, where staff can work together to address issues, implement effective teaching strategies, and design plans so that all students can achieve at their highest level. Mrs. Johnson recognizes the value of a well-rounded education beyond just the classroom and has been a strong supporter and advocate of quality afterschool activities. Her leadership, organization, and planning skills have served students, teachers, and fellow administrators well throughout her career.

I send best wishes and congratulations to Mrs. Johnson on this noteworthy recognition and thank her for her years of service as an educator in South Dakota.

RECOGNIZING HOLLAND CITY COUNCILMAN CRAIG RICH FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE ON THE HOLLAND CITY COUNCIL

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to congratulate Councilman Craig Rich on many years serving on the Holland City Council.

Craig Rich grew up in Holland where his family has lived since 1910. He is a 1972 graduate of Holland High School and holds a business degree from Davenport College. He and his father operated radio station WZND in Zeeland from 1971 through 1986. Since then he has been with the Grand Rapids Business Journal, a weekly business-to-business newspaper in Grand Rapids, as advertising sales consultant and sales manager.

Craig was first appointed to the Holland City Council in 1982 at 28 years old and has since been elected in 1983 and re-elected in 1985, 1989, 1993, 1997, 2001 and 2005. Craig also served as Holland's Mayor ProTem from 1987 to 2007. His ward represents the true center of the city—bordered by 14th and 15th streets and Lake Macatawa on the north, 24th street on the south, River, Michigan and Central ave-

nues on the east and Graafschap Road on the west.

Craig is the Council's liaison to the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Board of Public Works. He is most proud of having decreased or maintained the general fund tax rate 17 times since being elected to office while, at the same time, maintaining or increasing the level of essential city services.

In addition to his service on the City Council, Craig is active at Christ Memorial Reformed Church. He is a founding member of Michigan Shipwreck Research Associates and a "master" level SCUBA diver.

He combines his love of local history and genealogy with scuba diving to research and document local area shipwrecks. He is the author of "For Those in Peril: Shipwrecks of Ottawa County" due to be published in 2009.

Craig and his wife Vickie have been married since 1975 and have two daughters; Allison, an English teacher in Florida, and Catherine, a student at Northern Michigan University.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 776 for the Iran Sanctions Enabling Act of 2009, if I had been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, On Wednesday October 14, 2009 I was unavoidably detained and missed one vote.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 768, a resolution expressing support for the designation of the month of October as "National Work and Family Month (Rollcall 775).

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CITADEL

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, The U.S. News and World Report, in their publication titled "America's Best Colleges 2010", recently named The Citadel as the No. 1 best value among master's degree-granting colleges in the South. This is a tremendous recognition for the cadets, students, faculty, and administration of this esteemed South Carolina institution. In addition to being the best value, The Citadel was also named the No. 2 best public institution that offers a master's degree in the South and the No. 5 among all master's degree-granting colleges and universities in the South that offers a master's degree.

Born and raised in Charleston, I have been a longtime admirer and supporter of The Citadel. For 167 years, it has educated and built strong leaders in our military and civilian communities. It remains an important part of South Carolina's heritage of service. I know firsthand of its benefits with three brothers-in-law and two nephews who are graduates of The Citadel. I never cease to be amazed at the achievements of Citadel graduates, such as Brigadier General Larry Nicholson who I met in Helmand Province of Afghanistan where he is leading our courageous Marines.

I am grateful to have known so many graduates such as Congressman J. GRESHAM BARETT and Congressman STEVE BUYER of this important institution and will continue to be a proud supporter. Under the leadership of its President, LTG John W. Rosa, The Citadel is a valued national institution.

PAKISTAN-U.S. RELATIONS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I have been a strong supporter of the friendship between the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the United States, and I have supported efforts to strengthen the bonds between the countries as well as efforts that address our mutual security interests.

The current economic situation is the primary challenge to achieving these mutual goals.

Unfortunately, the economy of Pakistan is under considerable stress right now. The value of the rupee is at a historical low relative to the dollar, and international reserves have declined by \$7 billion—more than half—in one year's time.

Additionally, the current inflation rate is 25 percent and consumer prices are the highest they have been in over 30 years.

The U.S. wishes to disrupt and dismantle the existence of terrorist safe havens in Pakistan to bring stability and peace to the region.

As such, it is important to examine the root cause of terrorism, desperation. This desperation is best addressed by ensuring that U.S. foreign policy promotes worldwide economic stability.

We must lay the foundation of human security and capacity building which includes ensuring educational opportunities, economic and social justice, and physical and mental health care for everyone.

As such, I have not supported the current plans by the Administration to provide military training and defense articles to Pakistan.

The foundation of a peaceful society is rooted not in military might, but by ensuring that people's basic needs are met. This is the key component to achieve human security. In Pakistan, where approximately two-thirds of the people of Pakistan are living on less than \$2 a day, there is much that must be done to ensure that this key component to human security is achieved.

Additionally, I have vociferously opposed U.S. drone attacks on Pakistan. These attacks cause devastation to the innocent civilian population. I understand the opposition to the drone attacks by the government of Pakistan.

I will continue to work with my colleagues in Congress to address this issue and pursue a dialog with Special Envoy Holbrook.

Some have proposed establishing free trade agreements with Pakistan. The current U.S. model for free trade is flawed. For example, labor and environmental protections are inadequate. With the current lack of stability in Pakistan it is difficult to imagine that these protections could be assured.

IN HONOR OF JOHN MARHEFKA,
PENNSYLVANIA D.A.R.E. OFFI-
CER OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Patrolman John Marhefka of Lower Burrell, Pennsylvania. He was recently named Pennsylvania's top Drug Awareness and Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Officer of the Year.

For twelve years, Marhefka has been dedicated to preventing illegal drug usage through D.A.R.E., a program where police officers go into schools to teach young people about the dangers of illegal drugs. The D.A.R.E. program encourages students to make good life decisions by warning them about the risks of substance abuse and violence. The relationships that develop between the officers and their students open new lines of communication and help to strengthen community ties.

While there are more than 1,000 D.A.R.E. officers throughout Pennsylvania, Marhefka is one that goes above and beyond what is expected of him. Over his time as a D.A.R.E. officer, he has taught over 700 Burrell students from kindergarten to 12th grade. Marhefka makes a genuine effort to form a relationship with each of his students. He is known for his participation in recess and school family fun nights. Most importantly, Marhefka gives students the opportunity to get to know him, increasing their comfort with local authorities and their trust in the police.

Madam Speaker, Marhefka's dedication to the D.A.R.E. program has given students the knowledge and confidence they need to avoid the temptation of peer pressure. I commend him for his dedication to the prevention of illegal drug use and for his outstanding commitment to promoting safety in his community.

SOCIAL SECURITY COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the President's call to provide assistance to our nation's elderly, veteran and disabled citizens who will see no Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) in their 2010 Social Security payments for the first time in over 40 years.

Since the Great Depression, Social Security has proven a vital safety-net program that has kept over half of our seniors from falling into

poverty. It has been adjusted annually according to inflation to maintain the purchasing power of beneficiaries since 1975. In my home district, over 95,000 people collect Social Security benefits. This program provides 40 percent of all income received by elderly people in the United States, and supplies significant financial support for individuals with disabilities.

Despite encouraging signs of economic stabilization, millions of vulnerable citizens continue to struggle in the wake of a recession that brought record housing foreclosures, job losses and bankruptcies. Particularly hard hit are older Americans who have seen the value of their assets and savings wiped out, forcing them to postpone retirement or reenter the workforce, if employment can be found.

We must ensure that the purchasing power of older and disabled Americans remains strong. To that end, I look forward to working with my colleagues and the President to enact policies that will help rebuild retirement savings, restore lost asset value and achieve long-lasting financial security and independence.

HONORING OSCAR GUSTAVE MAYER, JR.

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, Rep. JACK KINGSTON and I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Oscar G. Mayer, Jr., of Madison, Wisconsin. Mr. Mayer's death last July was mourned by his widow, Geraldine, his family, the Madison community and the celebrated company he, his father and grandfather built over the past 125 years. Rosalie Harrison Mayer, his first wife of 56 years, passed away in 1998.

Starting with Oscar Mayer & Co. in Chicago in 1936 as a production trainee, Mr. Mayer devoted his entire business career to the company his grandfather started in 1883. After the deaths of his grandfather and father, Mr. Mayer served as President and later Chairman of Oscar Mayer & Co., leading the company through one of the most productive periods in its history.

Although raised in Illinois, Mr. Mayer moved to Madison, Wisconsin in 1946, while serving as Assistant to the Vice President of Operations. Then in 1957, as company president, Mr. Mayer moved Oscar Mayer & Co.'s headquarters to the Wisconsin state capital. Once rooted in Wisconsin, Oscar Mayer's generosity and kindness were felt in every corner of the greater Madison community.

An impassioned philanthropist, Oscar Mayer never shied away from an opportunity to help his community. Mr. Mayer was instrumental in turning the old Capitol Theater on State Street into Madison's first civic center. Mr. Mayer was a strong supporter of the Madison Arts Center and Elvehjem Art Museum and helped found the Alexis de Tocqueville Society, which has gone on to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the United Way of Dane County. "Do the right thing," was Mr. Mayer's philosophy in business and he carried that into his personal life, donating time, money and services to various organizations and groups